## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for linking of a first characteristic of a first device ~~(PP1,PP2)~~ and a second characteristic of a second device ~~(NP1,NP2)~~ by a server ~~(S1,AS2)~~, ~~the method being triggered by a request (50) for linking and~~ comprising the ~~following~~ steps of:

receiving a request for triggering a linking between said first device and said second device;

selecting ~~(75)~~ a first linking information and a second linking information, the first linking information matching to the second linking information,

sending ~~(100,150)~~ from the server ~~(S1,AS2)~~ the first linking information to the first device ~~(PP1,PP2)~~ and the second linking information to the second device ~~(NP1,NP2)~~,

presenting ~~(200,250)~~ by the first device ~~(PP1,PP2)~~ the first linking information and by the second device ~~(NP1,NP2)~~ the second linking information,

entering ~~(300)~~ into the first device ~~(PP1,PP2)~~ an indication of the matching of the first linking information and the second linking information,

based on the entered indication of the matching, sending ~~(400)~~ to the server ~~(S1,AS2)~~ a matching confirmation for confirming the matching to the server ~~(S1,AS2)~~,

associating ~~(450)~~ the first characteristic and the second characteristic based on the received matching confirmation.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~the method is used for authentication,~~ the request ~~(50)~~ for linking is a request for authentication and the first device ~~(PP1,PP2)~~ is a trusted device within said communication network, further comprising the step of stating the association ~~(450)~~ by an authentication assertion.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the authentication assertion is sent for granting access.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the first device ~~(PP1,PP2)~~ is a trusted device and the first characteristic relates to an access legitimization legitimating the trusted device for accessing a first institution.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein the second characteristic comprises an identifier identifying the second device ~~(NP1,NP2)~~ and access to a second institution is granted to or via the second device ~~(NP1,NP2)~~ based on the associating ~~(450)~~ of the first characteristic relating to the access legitimization and the second characteristic comprising the identifier, the second institution being identical to or different from the first institution.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the first linking information and the second linking information comprise one or more randomly generated symbols.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the first linking information is identical to the second linking information.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the associating ~~(450)~~ is based on a verification for correctness of confirmation data entered into the first device ~~(PP1,PP2)~~.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the entered confirmation data comprises at least one of

    (a)    a Personal Identification Number,

    (b)    a password,

(c)     an indication for additional information being presented in parallel to the first linking information or second linking information, the additional information being distinguishable from the first linking information and the second linking information, and

(d)     data being computed on the base of the first linking information and/or the second linking information.


10.     (Currently Amended)     A server (S1,AS2) usable for linking of a first characteristic of a first device (PP1,PP2) and a second characteristic of a second device (NP1,NP2) , the server (S1,AS2) comprising:

a receiving unit for receiving messages,

a transmitting unit for sending messages, and

a processing unit for processing messages and information,

wherein the receiving unit is adapted to receive a request (50) for linking, the processing unit is adapted to be triggered by the received request (50) for linking and to select a first linking information and a second linking information, the first linking information matching to the second linking information, the transmission unit is adapted to send the first linking information to the first device (PP1,PP2) and the second linking information to the second device (NP1,NP2), the receiving unit is adapted to receive a matching confirmation from the first device (PP1,PP2), the matching confirmation confirming to the processing unit the matching of the first linking information presented by the first device (PP1,PP2) and the second linking information presented by the second device (NP1,NP2) , and the processing unit is adapted to execute an associating (450) of the first characteristic and the second characteristic based on the received matching confirmation.


11.     (Currently Amended)     The server (S1,AS2) according to claim 10, wherein the server (S1,AS2) is used for authentication, the request (50) for linking is a request for authentication and the first device (PP1,PP2) is a trusted device, the processing unit being further adapted to state the association (450) by an authentication assertion.

12.    (Currently Amended)        The server (S1,AS2) according to claim 11, wherein the transmission unit is adapted to send the authentication assertion for granting access.

13.    (Currently Amended)        The server (S1,AS2) according to claim 10 any of the claims 10 to 12, wherein the first device (PP1,PP2) is a trusted device and the first characteristic relates to an access legitimization legitimating the trusted device for accessing a first institution.

14.    (Currently Amended)        The server (S1,AS2) according to claim 13, wherein the second characteristic comprises an identifier identifying the second device and, based on the associating (450) of the first characteristic relating to the access legitimization and the second characteristic comprising the identifier, the processing unit is adapted to generate an access assertion for granting to or via the second device (NP1,NP2) access to a second institution being identical or different from the first institution, and the transmission unit is adapted to send the access assertion to the second device (NP1,NP2) or the second institution or to an entity supporting the second device (NP1,NP2) or the second institution for granting access.

15.    (Currently Amended)        The server (S1,AS2) according to claim 10 any of the claims 10 to 14, wherein the processing unit is adapted to select the first linking information and the second linking information to comprise one or more randomly generated symbols.

16.    (Currently Amended)        The server according to claim 10 (S1,AS2) according to any of the claims 10 to 15, wherein the processing unit is adapted to select the first linking information being identical to the second linking information.

17.    (Currently Amended)        The server according to claim 10 (S1,AS2) according to any of the claims 10 to 16, wherein the processing unit is adapted to execute the

associating (450) of the first characteristic and the second characteristic based on a verification for correctness of confirmation data entered into the first device (PP1,PP2).

18.    (Currently Amended)    A computer program usable for linking of a first characteristic of a first device (PP1,PP2) and a second characteristic of a second device (NP1,NP2), the computer program being loadable into a processing unit of a server (S1,AS2), wherein the computer program comprises:

code adapted to be triggered by a request (50) for linking, to select a first linking information and a second linking information, the first linking information matching to the second linking information, to initialize a sending of the first linking information to the first device (PP1,PP2) and a sending of the second linking information to the second device (NP1,NP2), and to execute an associating (450) of the first characteristic and the second characteristic based on a matching confirmation received from the first device (PP1,PP2), the matching confirmation confirming to the computer program the matching of the first linking information presented by the first device (PP1,PP2) and the second linking information presented by the second device (NP1,NP2).

19.    (New) The computer program of claim 18 wherein the association is further based on a verification for correctness of confirmation data entered into the first device.

20.    (New) The computer program of claim 19 wherein said entered confirmation data includes a password.